

QA-261

Palmer Andrew House
Centreville
Private

2nd quarter 19th century

The Andrew House is an interesting example of a modest house type common in Tidewater Maryland throughout the 18th century. It was carried on into the 19th century, and in this example one may see the appearance of standardized technology mixing with the handcrafted methods carried over from the 18th century.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Palmer Andrew Hall/Parlour House on Chesterfield Avenue

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Chesterfield Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

3rd

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

—PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

—BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

—OCCUPIED

☒ UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

—YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

—NO

PRESENT USE

—AGRICULTURE

—MUSEUM

—COMMERCIAL

—PARK

—EDUCATIONAL

—PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—ENTERTAINMENT

—RELIGIOUS

—GOVERNMENT

—SCIENTIFIC

—INDUSTRIAL

—TRANSPORTATION

—MILITARY

☒ OTHER: vacant**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Palmer Andrew

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Chesterfield Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21617

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Situated on the east side of Chesterfield Avenue near the intersection with Corsica Neck Road, this small story-and-a-half frame dwelling overlooks a tidal marsh feeding into Corsica Creek. The front, three bay facade faces Chesterfield Avenue, while the rear, two bay facade overlooks the marsh. Scars remain on the southeast gable to indicate there was at one time a frame wing added to that end of the house.

The present building is a small, hall-parlour plan house, with front and rear doors on the center of each facade giving access to the main room. A smaller, unheated chamber on the northwest end is entered through a batten door centered on the plastered stud partition wall.

The brick exterior chimney is centered on the southeast gable. A small fireplace on the first floor provided the only source of heat for the present house. A batten door to the left of the fireplace gave access to the now-demolished wing. A winder stair with batten door to the right of the fireplace gives access to the second floor. Six-over-six windows with beaded frames flank the

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION

front door, giving light to both rooms. A single six-over-six window in the rear facade lights the larger of the two rooms. A single six-over-six window on each floor is centered in the northwest gable.

The second floor is little more than a loft, divided into two unheated rooms. The smaller, northwest room is lighted only by the gable window, the larger southeast room is lighted by a single, six-over-six gable roof dormer centered on the front or street facade. The partition dividing the two rooms is of random width vertical beaded boards. The connecting door has been removed. Two small batten doors allow access to the narrow storage space behind the rear knee wall. One of these doors is mounted on leather hinges, the other is nailed into place, with no evidence of hinges.

All four rooms were originally plastered, using machine sawn lathing and machine nails. Decorative trim is restricted to beaded window and door frames, a single beaded baseboard on the first floor, and unbeaded baseboard on the second floor. No evidence remains to indicate original treatment of the fireplace. Raised four panel doors on the front and

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION

rear entrances and a pedimented gable dormer are the only other indications of refinement still visible on the house.

Construction Details

The house rests on a continuous foundation wall along the front or street facade. This wall turns the southeast corner and joins the chimney base. The rear corners are supported by L-shaped piers. The brick is oversized, generally shaded towards a soft reddish brown with occasional glazed headers. There is no discernible bonding to the brick, but is rather poorly laid, with many of the bricks less than full-size.

The chimney has been rebuilt, as the brickwork above the first floor sill is laid in stretcher bond of decidedly later date. The small size of the fireplace in the existing building and the presence of a second fireplace at a slightly lower level on the exterior of the chimney, combined with the general character of the brickwork, would suggest that the original chimney was taken down and rebuilt when the frame addition was constructed.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION

The first floor sills are hand hewn (7 x 7) and support gang sawn joists (3 x 8) laid parallel to the gable and notched to fit over the sill. The "facade" sills run all the way to the corner, the gable sills are mortised in, as are the hewn corner posts (4 x 6). Two braces (3½ x 5) run from the corner post down to the sill. All intermediate posts are standard, gang sawn studs (2½ x 4 to 3 x 4) mortised into both sill and top plate. The top plates are also hand hewn (4 x 6) and support gang sawn floor joists. The top plate only runs on the front and rear walls; the gable top plates are also the end floor joists. On the gable walls the floor joists serve as top plates.

The common rafter roof is laid on a flat false plate. The rafters are gang sawn, mitered and butted at the ridge, and presumably nailed together from the top. Random width one-inch collars are nailed to the rafter pairs with machine nails, and also supported the plaster ceiling before its removal. The roof pitch is 46 degrees on the front and 50 degrees on the rear.

The first floor interior partition is of gang sawn stud construction. The tops of the studs were

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION

notched out and shouldered against a second floor joist, then secured with machine nails. The second floor partition is of random width vertical beaded boards nailed directly to the face of a rafter pair and toe-nailed to the floor. Both partitions appear to be original.

All evidence tends to suggest a mid-nineteenth century date for this building. Though in general form and plan suggestive of an earlier date, the absence of wrought nails or hardware, the widespread use of machine sawn material and stud frame construction are all indicative of a date no earlier than the second quarter of the nineteenth century.

Although the chimney is the only evidence remaining of the south gable addition, the color and type of brick combined with the use of stretcher bond would suggest a post-Civil War date for that alteration.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

QA-261

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Andrew house is an interesting example of a modest house type common in Tidewater Maryland throughout the 18th century. It was carried on into the 19th century, and in this example one may see the appearance of standardized technology mixing with the handcrafted methods carried over from the 18th century.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

4/4/78

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

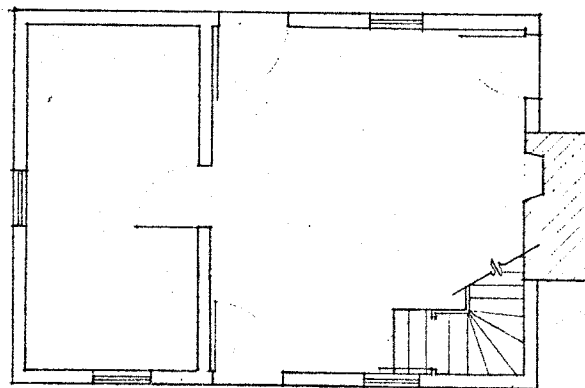
STATE

Maryland

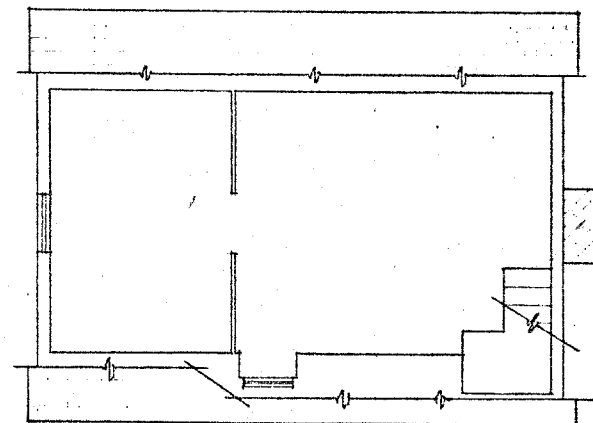
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

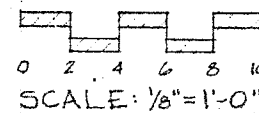
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR

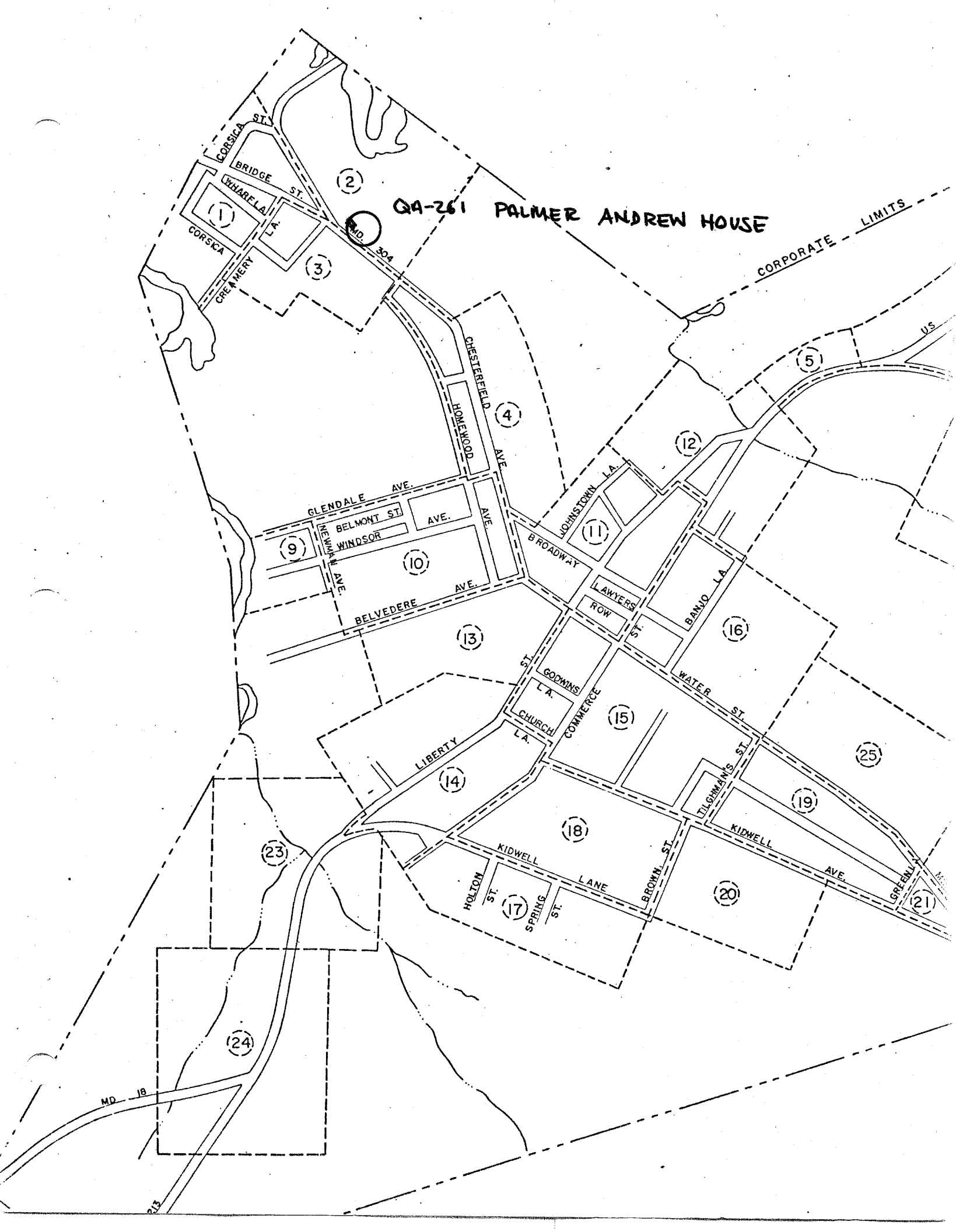


ORLANDO RIDOUT V

QA-261

PALMER ANDREW HOUSE
CENTREVILLE, MARYLAND

FEBRUARY 10, 1978





QA-261 Palmer Andrew House
Centerville, Md.
Orlando Ridout V, 1978 (MHT)
Southeast gable, camera facing NW